

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed are a shading correction method for a sensor capable of accurately detecting color tint of a toner patch without using any white-color reference  
5 to execute shading correction in the sensor, a shading correction apparatus for a sensor, and a color image forming apparatus. In the shading correction, light reflected by a rich K toner patch formed on a transferring material is detected, a  
10 shading correction value for the sensor is calculated based on detected data, and correction is executed using the shading correction value during operation for detecting a toner patch for color stabilization.